

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Advisory Board Meeting Notes:
Monday, April 2, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: Copies of the agenda were available.

Minutes from previous meeting: The Board lacked a quorum so approval of the minutes from the March meeting was omitted. Copies were available

Attendees: 23 attendees including board members

Speaker(s):

- Captain Peter Georgiades updated attendees on:
 - the heroin/opioid crisis
 - crime stats for Joppa/Joppatowne
 - responded to citizen inquiries
- Steve Overbay, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Community and Economic Development provided an overview of the OCED, Harford Transit, and a brief history of the local bus service. He shared future plans i.e. expanded hours and the steps required to make these plans reality.
- Gary Blazinsky, Transit Operations Manager, explained more of the day-to-day operations of Harford Transit. He gave statistical information about ridership, miles traveled, hours of operation, most frequent destination of riders (Harford Community College), fares, etc.
- Alan Doran, Rideshare Coordinator, shared his outreach role, explained about other transportation options, and various initiatives i.e. Bike to Work Day and Dump the Pump Day
 - Community response to their presentations was very positive; community members offered a couple of suggestions/questions:
 - Encouraged Transit to use the calendar that is part of the County's webpage to publicize their events; make sure links work
 - Asked about bus stop signs being posted at bus stops
 - Noted the need for evening and Saturday service
- Adam Shellenberger, Pastor, Joppatowne Christian Church:

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- Noted that the Hope for the Homeless Rotating Shelter collected some data that might be helpful to Transit; he wanted to know how to get the information to them.
- Noted the upcoming performance at Joppatowne High School – “Dirty, Rotten Scoundrels,” Wednesday-Friday, April 25-27, 2018
- Ron Sollod shared:
 - Smoke alarm saved lives in a recent devastating fire.
 - Reminded attendees to make sure their alarms are functional; correct alarm and batteries
- Sylvia Bryant shared:
 - **Upcoming Events:**
 - **Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 7-9 p.m.,** Conflict Resolution Training (flyers provided) is the first in a series of 7 classes constituting the Mental Health & Safety Community Education Program. The sessions are free and open to the public. Reservations are being received on a first come-first served basis; additional sessions are planned. The classes will be held in the Harford County Government Building, 2220 Ady Road, Bel Air
 - **Saturday, April 7, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.,** Expo for Transitioning Youth, (brochures shared) Bel Air High School, 100 Heighe Street, Bel Air, this free event offers participants the opportunity to visit with 60+ local exhibitors and choose from 17 workshops throughout the day. The Expo provides a forum for families to connect with vendors who may be able to assist as they plan the journey from high school to adulthood.
 - **Saturday, April 21, 10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.,** Harford County SibShop, (flyers shared) Mount Zion United Methodist Church. This fun, high-energy event is geared to children ages 6-12 who have a sibling with special health care and/or developmental needs. Children will have a chance to connect with other youngsters who also have siblings with special needs.
 - **Wednesday, April 25,** A new, interactive “sensory trail” opens at Schucks Regional Park in Bel Air to give citizens with differing abilities a new chance to play, exercise, and enjoy nature. A first of its kind in Harford County, this accessible trail will allow citizens of all ages to interact with exciting sensory stations including nine-foot chimes for solo or group music; a roller table for pinch-free tactile sliding; drums and xylophones of different sizes, and brightly colored panels for fun and sensory stimulation.

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- **Saturday, April 28, 2018, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.** Housing Fair for first-time homebuyers (shared flyers), McFaul Activity Center, 525 W. MacPhail Road in Bel Air where first time homebuyers can connect with resources and receive free, expert guidance.
- **Joppatowne Dredging Projects – Checked in with Paul Magness, Project Manager**
Mr. Magness reports that the dredging of Taylor Creek on the Gunpowder River from the Marina (boat launch) to the railroad was completed by Southern Maryland Dredging. Bayland Consultants is the engineering firm that is overseeing this work. Bayland Consultants have completed their post dredge surveys to determine if the work was done satisfactorily, in compliance with the contract with Southern Maryland Dredging. Once that information is received by Mr. Magness and analyzed, the County will be able to determine next steps.

Additional dredging projects are planned for the fall. These are currently going through the MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment) permitting process and/or awaiting confirmation of waterway funding:

- Dredging of outfall area toward Rumsey Island
 - West Taylor's Creek from the boat launch at Marina's Point towards Anchor and Neptune Drives
 - The Rumsey Island and West Taylor's Creek projects will be put out to bid with the Foster Branch maintenance dredging project. Dredging is expected to occur in the Fall 2018, after October 15th
- **Susan Sapp, Legislative Aide to Councilman Slutzky** - County Budget Work Sessions – begin soon. These meetings are open to the public; they are held in the County Council Chambers.

Community Input:

- Citizens encouraged attendees to reach out to their representatives about supporting Governor Hogan's legislation that provides for an *extreme risk protection order* that will allow people who know others with a gun(s) who appear to be a threat, to notify law enforcement who will be able to seize the gun(s) and require the gun owner have a mental health evaluation before returning the gun(s) to the owner, etc.
- Joppatowne Carnival, Thursday-Saturday, April 12-21, 2018, Joppatowne Plaza Shopping Center, proceeds support the Edgewood-Joppatowne Independence Day Parade.